

Important Notice Regarding Vaccine Issues

Idaho Immunization Program

July 13, 2004

(Please share this with all immunization staff members)

***** Pevnar Availability Update *****

Effective immediately, the CDC, in consultation with the (ACIP), American Academy of Family Physicians, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, recommends that providers administer 3 doses of vaccine. The fourth dose should still be deferred for healthy children until further production and supply data demonstrate convincingly that a 4-dose schedule can be sustained. The full, 4-dose, series should continue to be given to children at increased risk for pneumococcal disease because of certain chronic conditions (e.g., sickle cell disease, anatomic asplenia, chronic heart or lung disease, diabetes, cerebrospinal fluid leak, cochlear implant (4), or an immunocompromising condition).

Idaho received and distributed 6,030 doses of Pevnar to providers in June. Idaho has no Pevnar in current inventory, but is awaiting the arrival of another 6,000 doses that are on back order. Some providers might have short-term difficulties obtaining vaccine because of distribution delays; however, every effort will be made to provide sufficient vaccine to all providers. As a reminder, August/September bi-monthly vaccine orders are due at the Idaho Immunization Program (IIP) by the close of business on Friday the 23rd of July. For vaccine orders received between July 15th and July 23rd, all non-emergency shipments will be shipped on August 2nd, 3rd and 4th. Providers with previous un-met Pevnar needs or anyone who will need additional vaccine to meet the 3 dose series schedule should place an August/September order with the IIP. If vaccine is needed prior to the first week in August, please place an emergency order

For more information, please see <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5326a7.htm>

***** Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedules Jul – Dec 2004 *****

Enclosed in this packet are new Recommended Childhood and Adolescent Immunization Schedules for July through December of 2004. The reason for the mid year change in this schedule has to do with the adoption of the new childhood Influenza recommendation. The new recommendation states: "In addition, healthy children 6-23 months and close contacts of healthy children aged 0-23 months are recommended to receive this vaccine." The prior Recommended Childhood Schedule "encouraged" rather than "recommended" the use of this vaccine for these children.

***** Influenza Vaccine Status for 2004/2005 Season *****

The IIP ordered a total of 7,600 doses of Aventis Fluzone brand Influenza vaccine packaged as 10 dose vials. This vaccine will be distributed to Idaho providers for high-risk children 3 years through 18 years of age, as a note Flu vaccine in the 10 dose vial still contains Thimerosal as a preservative.

The IIP also ordered 17,500 doses of Aventis Fluzone brand Influenza vaccine supplied as 10 single dose pre-filled syringes per package. This vaccine is supplied for all children 6 – 23 months of age and for high risk children 24 – 35 months of age. Pre-filled syringes are marketed as Thimerosal free doses.

Providers wishing to order Flu vaccine may request it on the current IIP Vaccine & Supply Order form, the order form allows for a choice of either vials and/or T/free syringes. Vaccine production appears to be on track so, if production continues without problems the IIP would expect to receive about 1/3 of the 25,100 doses to arrive for distribution to providers in late September, with additional vaccine distributed as it arrives in October/November/December. (Orders will be accepted beginning now through the entire 2004/2005 season)

(Influenza high risk categories are defined on the 2004/2005 Influenza Vaccine Information Statement.)